

**TOWN OF GRANBY  
ATHLETIC FIELDS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS BUILDING COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 10, 2012**

**PRESENT:** Ronald Durej, Benjamin Perron, James Sansone, and David White.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dr. Patricia Law, Granby Memorial High School Principal, BOE Liaison; B. Scott Kuhnly, BOS Liaison; John Stewart, CR3; and two high school coaches

Chairman Durej confirmed a quorum and the meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Approval of Minutes**

The Committee reviewed the minutes for the meetings of June 19, 2012 and June 26, 2012 before taking action. Chairman Durej noted in the minutes from June 26, 2012, in the "Bleachers" paragraph the word decided, should be changed to proposed.

ON A MOTION by Mr. Sansone, seconded by Mr. Perron, the Committee voted (3-0-1) to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2012 meeting as recorded. Mr. Sansone abstained from voting.

ON A MOTION by Mr. Sansone, seconded by Mr. White, the Committee voted (3-0-1) to approve the minutes of June 26, 2012, with the above noted correction. Mr. Sansone abstained from voting.

Chairman Durej announced the contract with CR3 has been signed.

**Discuss updated schematic design of the fields**

Dr. Law reported she had met with the coaches this past week to review the new schemes. She said the coaches like the Scheme B proposal best.

Mr. Stewart said he measured the areas being discussed at the High School. He said that regarding the straightaway events; they can be run safely in the proposed space. There is plenty of space for the 4X100 track. The coaches present are in agreement with this proposal.

The cost of bleachers and grandstand was discussed. As the plans are now, a grandstand and bleachers may not be affordable. The grandstand and bleachers will be looked at further.

The ambulance area has been moved due to the grade of the area where it was originally to be placed.

Mr. Sansone questioned Mr. Stewart regarding driving a pickup truck around the field areas. Mr. Stewart stated the walkway would have to be built up properly to support that kind of use. The track on the west side of the field looks good.

Questions about lighting, and how they could be changed when needed, was briefly discussed. Mr. Stewart encouraged the Committee to create a list of questions like this so they can be addressed at a later date.

Mr. White asked the coaches in attendance why they liked Scheme B as opposed to Scheme A. The response was because they felt the location of the grandstand and bleachers were positioned best in this scheme. One of the coaches said the finish is positioned where the crowd is.

Regarding Field Events – the dimensions for shot put and discus were discussed. Is there adequate space? It was proposed that the discus circle should be pushed back somewhat. Mr. Stewart was asked to add dimensions and measurements to the scheme.

There was discussion about trees being removed to make more room to push back the sidewalk and create more field space. Mr. Steinke commented the trees are not in good shape (diseased) and will eventually need to be removed. The Committee could make this suggestion and show in the plans proposed new plantings. There is a fence in this area too, which is relatively new. That fence could be taken down and reused once the tree and sidewalk work is done. This proposal with the trees and fence should be mentioned to the Board of Education.

Where to place a flagpole was mentioned. Mr. Stewart said that will be included in the plan.

With the repositioning of the shot put and discus areas, the proposed area for a storage shed is no longer available. Another proposed area should be chosen to place a storage shed at a later date. Mr. Stewart commented that some things could be stored under the grandstand.

It was questioned where the javelin would be thrown and the response was into the field. For practice it's thought javelins with rubber tips could be used.

There was discussion about using netting during practices, which included the cost, using sleeves for the poles, is this a must or a would like to have item, and the fact that the netting may not be necessary if practices are scheduled to avoid track and lacrosse practicing at the same time. Mr. Stewart will look into the cost of netting. This matter will be addressed at a later date, when more information is available.

Dr. Law said the coaches asked if, with regard to the long and triple jump, could there be double pits? Mr. Stewart said it could be an option, depending on the distance where they run.

It was asked if there are access gates in/out of the track area and they were pointed out on the scheme. Access to and from the bleachers was also reviewed. It was hoped access could be positioned so that people don't have to walk in front of people already seated on the bleachers in order to access the stands.

The scoreboard location needs to be discussed further. Hopefully the present one can be reused by moving it to a new area.

Scheme B, with the changes discussed at tonight's meeting seems to be the plan most agreeable to everyone. The grandstand and bleachers are items where further information needs to be obtained and then discussed.

Cross-country was not addressed in any detail tonight, but will be at a later date.

Mr. Stewart will modify Scheme B based on tonight's discussions and suggestions. That modified copy will be sent to Chairman Durej.

Mr. Stewart left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

### **Discussion on communication with the public regarding the progress of the projects**

The Committee talked about communicating with residents regarding this project. Mr. Perron will put together a list of thoughts to communicate to the public. Maybe a copy of Scheme B, or the most recent revision, could be published in the *Drummer* and an article with Athletic Field information could be written. This should be shown to the Town Manager before moving forward.

**Discussion on how to engage an external organization to help with the cost of out of scope items like a concession stand or a storage building**

The Committee feels that ideas should be addressed with groups like the Granby Rovers, the Booster Club, and football groups to mention a few.

**Identify next steps**

- Move to approve the final design.
- Look for a more detailed schedule (timeline)

The Committee would like to ask Town Manager Smith to attend the July 24, 2012 meeting to give an update on all the projects.

Dr. Law reported the GMHS Electronics Lab project is moving along well. Plumbing is in for the sinks. A new exhaust system has been installed. Smart Boards have arrived and are waiting to be installed. Furniture should be delivered in a couple of weeks. The project is on schedule and on budget.

An idea was mentioned, to speak with the Board of Education to see if they can help purchase some add on's for the Athletic Fields project.

The July 17, 2012 meeting is cancelled. The next meeting will be a special meeting on Tuesday, July 24, 2012 at the Police Department Community Room.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ON A MOTION** by Jim Sansone, seconded by Ben Perron, the Committee unanimously voted unanimously (4-0-0) to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Christian  
Recording Secretary